


REMARKS

The changes made to the specification and claims employ more conventional English expression and do not introduce any new matter. A marked-up version of the specification and claim changes follows this page as a part of this response.


For any question on the above amendments, the Examiner is invited to call applicants' representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
EUGENE STEPHENS & ASSOCIATES


Thomas B. Ryan, Reg. No. 31,659
Agent for Applicant(s)
56 Windsor Street
Rochester, New York 14605
Phone: (716) 232-7700
Facsimile: (716) 232-7188

TBR:cba

Dated: APR 25 2001

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on the date shown below with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C., 20231.	
Date of Deposit:	APR 25 2001
Signature:	

Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

In the Specification

Please amend the specification as follows:

Paragraph on page 1, lines 23-34:

Recently it has come into fashion to practice fitness, e.g. jogging, as leisure activities [as] for compensation to [the every-day] everyday work [but] and also for building up the personal condition. In order to make these possibly monotone sporting activities more attractive and diversified, special music playback devices have been developed by the entertainment industry, which can be carried on the body during the fitness activity (e.g. jogging), so that [simultaneously] music can be listened to simultaneously. Such special music playback devices have become commonly known as [Walkman or Discman] WALKMAN or DISCMAN (registered trademarks of Sony Corporation); appropriate radio devices have been developed, too. However, these music playback devices have the drawback of merely serving for reproducing corresponding media, such as cassettes or compact disks, which for example store music or audio plays. The played pieces of music and texts correspond to the preferences of each sportsman and are in no way associated with the achieved training of the personal condition and fitness.

Paragraph "a)" on page 2, lines 9 and 10:

a) detecting [of] parameters inherent to a person's body during a training; said method being characterized by the steps of:

Paragraph at the bottom of page 2, lines 33 and 34, and continuing on the top of page 3, lines 1-5:

To achieve the above [object] objectives, the invention is based on the idea [to provide] of providing a training program that can be combined or compiled individually and listened to by a user during the training (e.g., a music compilation)[,] and [to provide for] of providing a portable training device[, besides of the] that has sound playback

means for playing the training program in the form of music or texts[, a possibility] and the capability to detect the actual training course and to output via the sound playback means verbal training information corresponding to this training course to the user for training purposes.

Four paragraphs on page 3, lines 12-34:

According to the invention the portable training device comprises, besides [of] the sound playback means, a microprocessor or microcomputer, respectively, and a training course detecting means in data communication with the microprocessor. The training course detecting means detects parameters inherent to the training person during a training. The training course detecting means is, for example, a pulsimeter, a pulsoxymeter, a chronometer, a timer, or a pedometer.

The sound playback means is preferably a MP3 player or a device using similar data formats, a [Discman] DISCMAN, a portable DAT device, or a portable MiniDisc device. The sound playback means is preferably insensitive to shock.

[A verbal] Verbal information (for example, "[You're] Your pulse frequency is 110.") corresponding to the detected pulse is outputted to the user via the sound playback means [in order] for informing the user about his/her present physical condition. This information is presented to the user on a regular basis, e.g., every minute, or on demand, for example by means of a button or switch provided [at] on the portable training device.

For example, by use of a chronometer or timer the user can perform his training in certain intervals, the duration of which is predetermined by the chronometer/timer and verbally [signalized] signaled to him. The indication of the detected training course, i.e. time intervals, pulse frequency, etc. can be provided by a voice synthesizer and preferably additionally by a visual signal generating means. For example, a light emitting diode is provided that assists and supports the verbal indication or information to the user. Alternatively, a display, e.g. integrated in glasses (e.g., sun glasses) worn by the user is used for visually informing the user about his/her present status.

Paragraph on page 4, lines 1-12:

The microprocessor/microcomputer receives the detected training course signal, i.e. the parameter signal of the detected parameter, and [causes that this is converted] converts this into corresponding training information and transmits it to a signal means, e.g. a voice synthesizer, for verbally informing the user [on] of the detected parameters. Thus corresponding training information can be communicated to the user on the basis of the determined data (pulse frequency, oxygen content of the blood, time characteristic, distances, etc.). If the user for example listens to music by means of a head set during the training, the running program can be interrupted temporarily for transmitting the training information to inform the user about his/her present physical condition. The portable training device according to the invention thus outputs by means of voice output training information to the user, e.g. information about pulse, elapsed time, pace information (e.g. elapsed distance), information about individual training units, etc.

Paragraph on page 4, lines 25-32:

A music playback means according to the invention preferably comprises a means for outputting a beat[,] so that the user is given a predetermined selectable rhythm [according to that the user can perform] for performing his training. This beat can preferably be provided variably to influence the training course and the training speed, respectively. In a particular preferred embodiment, the outputted beat corresponds to the cardiac rhythm of the user so that he can train according to his personal rhythm. The music played by the training device or the music playback means is for example pulse controlled or running controlled.

Paragraph on page 5, lines 21-26:

According to a further preferred embodiment, the training device comprises a means for storing personal user data. These are output from the training device during the training and can be received by other training devices. Received personal data of another user can be compared with the user's own personal data (e.g. hobbies) in the user's own training device. If the compared data match at least partially, this is indicated to the user by a corresponding signal.

A

Paragraph at the bottom of page 5, lines 32-34, and continuing on the top of page 6, lines 1-8:

According to the invention, prior to the training, music compilations are provided (in the Internet) at a base station (e.g. computer having Internet access) which then can be combined individually, downloaded, and employed for training on a playback device [or a playback device according to the invention] (MP3 player). Preferably, the parameters detected during the training are stored in a memory of the portable training device[,] and are transferred to the base station once the training device is again connected with the base station. In the base station, the detected data of the preceding training unit [is] are analyzed. Based on the outcome of this analysis and based on personal data (e.g., age, gender, etc.) and on the selected kind of sport, a modified training program is offered to the user as a further means to improve and optimize the user's training and physical condition.

Paragraph on page 6, lines 19-33:

According to a preferred method of the present invention as shown in Fig. 1, a user first registers with a personal password at an Internet website. The user then selects a virtual personal coach, i.e., the user selects a specific voice (e.g., drill sergeant) for the training information/instructions communicated during the training. In the next step, the user is asked for personal data such as age, gender, training goal, etc. which allows the training system to assist the user in creating a music compilation or training schedule for specific training units. The selected data are [the] then transferred from the PC (base station) to the portable training device, and the user can start the individual training. While the user is listening to the individual music compilation, the detected parameters are communicated to the user along with instructions regarding further training units. According to this preferred method, the detected data are stored in a memory of the portable training device and are transferred to the base station after the training is completed. These data are then analyzed at the base station. For example, the data are compared with the data of previous exercises[,] or with data of other users.

Paragraph on page 7, lines 1-12:

A

Fig. 2 shows the training system according to a preferred embodiment of the present invention. On top of Fig. 2, the portable training device is shown. According to this specific embodiment, the portable training device comprises a parameter detecting unit that communicates with the microprocessor of the device by wireless transmission. Furthermore, a display is provided, e.g. for showing the track number or title of the played music. The training device further comprises an output unit comprising an output sub-unit for music and a sub-unit for the verbal information, a time counter, and a data memory transmitter. The portable training device is adapted for a data transfer with a base station which is [in the shown embodiment] shown as a computer with an Internet browser for accessing an Internet website. At this website, the individual personal data can be entered, the training schedule with a sequence of training units can be created, and the music compilations can be prepared.

In the Claims

Please amend claims 2, 3, 7, 9, 12, 20, and 21 as follows:

2. (AMENDED) Method according to claim 1, wherein the verbal training information [indicate] indicates the detected values of the body's inherent parameters to the user.
3. (AMENDED) Method according to claim 1, wherein the verbal training information [include] includes training instructions for [the] further training based on the detected values.
7. (AMENDED) Portable training device for optimizing a training comprising:
 - a sound playback means;
 - a microprocessor; and
 - a means for detecting parameters inherent to the body of a user, said detecting means being connected with the microprocessor for data communication;
 characterized by

A

a converter controlled by the microprocessor and connected to the sound playback means for converting [the] detected values of said parameters into verbal training information for the user and for outputting [them] the information by the sound playback means.

9. (AMENDED) Portable device according to claim 7, wherein the verbal training information indicates instructions for [the] further training to the user based on the detected values of the body's inherent parameters.
12. (AMENDED) Portable device according to claim 7, wherein the sound playback means is a MP3 player, a [Discman] disc player, a DAT device, or a MiniDisc device.
20. (AMENDED) Portable device according to claim 19, wherein the microprocessor compares the received personal data with the training person's stored [own] personal data [und] and causes output of [a] verbal information if the compared data at least partially match.
21. (AMENDED) Training system for optimizing a training, characterized by:
 - a sound playback means;
 - a microprocessor;
 - a means for detecting parameters inherent to the body of a user, said detecting means being connected with the microprocessor for data communication;
 - a converter controlled by the microprocessor and connected to the sound playback means for converting the detected values of said parameters into verbal training information for the user and for outputting [them] the information by the sound playback means; and
 - a base station.